



US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



421720

**MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY
SUPERFUND SECTION**

ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

Date: 9/5/02

Subject: Close Out Memorandum

From: Gary L. Krueger *GLK*
Environmental Planner
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

To: Jeanne Griffin
Early Action Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 5

**SITE CLOSEOUTS FOR POTENTIAL LEAD SMELTING FACILITIES
SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA**

INTRODUCTION:

This memorandum documents that no further Federal or State Superfund assessment actions are required at the following Minnesota sites.

1. Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co. (1328 N 2nd, Minneapolis)
2. General Smelting & Refining Co. (No Address)
3. National Lead (No Address)
4. St. Paul Lead Co. (109 E Chicago, St. Paul)
5. St. Paul Smelting & Refining Co. (243 Starkey, St. Paul)
6. Metals Refining Co. (218 3rd Ave N., Minneapolis)
7. Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co. (2523 Hiawatha Ave., Minneapolis)

BACKGROUND:

In November 2001, U.S. EPA Region 5 staff requested that MPCA staff evaluate the potential for the above listed sites to pose a public health or environmental risk and determine if additional Superfund assessment actions should be conducted.

MPCA staff initially reviewed database information as to the potential for these facilities to have existed or operated in Minnesota. The only information that was provided to MPCA staff was that these could have been lead smelters and a potential address for the possible facility. Attached to this memo are the database reviews done pertaining to corporation or business status. MPCA Site Assessment staff also conducted site visits to each of the given locations to determine current status of the property. The following is a brief description of the findings for each location.

1. Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co. - 1328 N 2nd, Minneapolis
Current location of Midwest Steel Supply. There was a CERLIS Preliminary Assessment completed for Midwest Steel by the MPCA in 1985, and is currently in NFRAP/Archive status. Hennepin County has completed Phase I/II and cleanup on adjacent property has part of redevelopment effort in area. Phase I completed for Hennepin County did indicate a Northwestern Metal Manufacturing Company operated at location in early 1900's, but did not give details of exact operation. May have been an iron and scrap dealer or possibly even a blacksmith.
2. General Smelting, St. Paul
No address was given for this facility. Search of corporate records did not indicate a company of this name ever operated in Minnesota. No information available.
3. National Lead, St. Paul
No address was given for this facility. Search of corporate records does not show this company operated in St. Paul. One address found in St. Paul is for past(1946) trustee of company. National Lead did have location in Minneapolis and there was a National Lead site in St. Louis Park, Minnesota which was listed on state and federal Superfund lists, since delisted.
4. St. Paul Lead, 109 E Chicago, St. Paul
The address give does not now exist in St. Paul. Only Chicago street which would have St. Paul mailing address is residential area along White Bear Lake. Potential address change to 1301 West Seventh in St. Paul, which is now the location of a bar/restaurant.
5. St. Paul Smelting & Refining Co., 243 Starkey, St. Paul
This company changed name to Gopher Resources which now operates a battery/lead recycling operation in Eagan, Minnesota. Location given is now office buildings/light industrial/warehouse.
6. Metals Refining Co., 218 3rd Ave, Minneapolis
No information in corporate record search that this company operated in Minnesota. Current status at location give is commercial office and/or apartment building. This building may have been some type of warehouse or factory at one point in time.
7. Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co., 2523 Hiawatha Ave, Minneapolis
May be associated with the Northwestern Smelting listed on 2nd Ave. Current operations at listed location include construction company and bus line.

RECOMMENDATION:

Very little to any information about these potential lead smelters is readily available. There may have been some type of business with these names operating at the given locations. However, it is uncertain as to the exact type of operation. The only location where there may have been some type of lead smelting occurring was the St. Paul Smelting operation at 243 Starkey. This is based solely on the type of operation that changed name/location of company. Any further use of State or Federal Superfund resources would be based solely on the name of the possible business. Substantial resources may be needed to adequately research each possible facility. Even then, very little evidence would likely exist to suggest a possible release might have occurred. It is MPCA staff's opinion that based on the limited information available and the likelihood that very little information exists which could support justification for any type of on-site investigation. Given this, the MPCA would not be able to present a case for accessing each of these properties under State Superfund statutes. Therefore, based on the available information (and lack thereof), it is the recommendation of MPCA Site Assessment staff that no further State or Federal Superfund Site Assessment resources be directed to these sites and that no further Superfund action be taken.

Krueger, Gary

From: Griffin.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov[SMTP:Griffin.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2001 12:42 PM
To: gary.krueger@pca.state.mn.us
Subject: SMELTERS
Importance: High

HQ has received a request for the regions to check out some lead smelters. 640 former lead smelting factories in 35 states which could be filled with potentially hazardous levels of lead in the soil. I was wondering if you could verify the existence of these smelters. We are thinking at doing PCS on these some a photo of whatever is currently on the property would be sufficient. Since all of MNs are within your general metro area, could you please take a run out and at least take some photos and get current owner information???? Just a little something to do. You will get credit for PCS. Thanks. If these are like the ones in Chicago, other business are on the land.

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
1328 N 2ND MINNEAPOLIS

GENERAL SMELTING & REFINING CO
ST. PAUL

NATIONAL LEAD
ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL LEAD CO
109 E CHICAGO ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL SMELTING & REFINING CO
243 STARKEY ST PAUL

METALS REFINING CO
218 3RD AVE N MINNESPOLIS

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
2523 HIAWATHA AVE MINNEAPOLIS

Krueger, Gary

From: Krueger, Gary
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 12:08 PM
To: 'JEANNE GRIFFIN'
Subject: Smelters

Jeanne, it looks like you can put all of these in the No Further Action category.

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
1328 N 2ND MINNEAPOLIS

GENERAL SMELTING & REFINING CO
ST. PAUL

NATIONAL LEAD
ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL LEAD CO
109 E CHICAGO ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL SMELTING & REFINING CO
243 STARKEY ST PAUL

METALS REFINING CO
218 3RD AVE N MINNESPOLIS

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
2523 HIAWATHA AVE MINNEAPOLIS

I went out to these today(pictures too) and got some historical information. I'll put together a package to send down. Gary

p.s. Better late than never!!

Mossak, Julianne

From: Krueger, Gary
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2001 1:58 PM
To: Mossak, Julianne
Subject: FW: SMELTERS
Importance: High

Julianne, could you see what you can find out about these. Thanks, Gary

From: Griffin.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov[SMTP:Griffin.Jeanne@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2001 11:42 AM
To: gary.krueger@pca.state.mn.us
Subject: SMELTERS
Importance: High

HQ has received a request for the regions to check out some lead smelters. 640 former lead smelting factories in 35 states which could be filled with potentially hazardous levels of lead in the soil. I was wondering if you could verify the existence of these smelters. We are thinking at doing PCS on these some a photo of whatever is currently on the property would be sufficient. Since all of MNs are within your general metro area, could you please take a run out and at least take some photos and get current owner information???? Just a little something to do. You will get credit for PCS. Thanks. If these are like the ones in Chicago, other business are on the land.

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
1328 N 2ND MINNEAPOLIS

GENERAL SMELTING & REFINING CO
ST. PAUL

NATIONAL LEAD
ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL LEAD CO
109 E CHICAGO ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL SMELTING & REFINING CO
243 STARKEY ST PAUL

METALS REFINING CO
218 3RD AVE N MINNESPOLIS

NORTHWESTERN SMELTING & REFINING CO
2523 HIAWATHA AVE MINNEAPOLIS